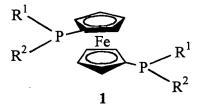
ABSTRACT

SUPPORTED HOMOGENEOUS CATALYSTS FOR SELECTIVE HYDROGENATION

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A supported catalyst comprises a cationic rhodium(I) complex of the formula



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wherein R¹ and R² are the same or different hydrocarbon groups of up to 30 C atoms, or R¹ and R² are linked to form a ring, and a heterogeneous support medium that provides anionic binding sites.

Such a complex is particularly useful as a catalyst in a process of hydrogenating an aldehyde to produce the corresponding primary alcohol.